



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

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CHILD PORNOGRAPHER SENTENCED TO 11 YEARS

Orlando, Florida - U.S. District Judge G. Kendall Sharp, today sentenced CHARLES M. LALA to 11 years' and three months' imprisonment with a three year supervised release term to follow for inducing a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct in order to manufacture child pornography. The Court also ordered LALA to pay \$2000 restitution to the victim of the offense, as well as a special assessment of \$100. LALA pleaded guilty on July 18, 2003.

According to court documents, in November 1999, LALA took sexually explicit digital photographs, which were stored on his computer, of a 12-year-old. In his plea agreement with the government, LALA agreed that he had been having sexual relations with the victim for years prior to the time the photographs were taken. The victim told investigators that LALA threatened to kill her if she told anyone of the molestation. Court records also show that LALA was arrested in Utah with a 15-year-old girl with whom he had left the State of Florida. LALA pleaded guilty in Utah to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and was sentenced to 57 months in federal prison. Today's sentence will run consecutive to the term imposed in Utah.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Volusia County Sheriff's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Cynthia A. Hawkins.